United Nations A/C.5/72/L.26

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda item 142
Joint Inspection Unit

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair of the Committee following informal consultations

Joint Inspection Unit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 31/192 of 22 December 1976, 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 56/245 of 24 December 2001, 57/284 A and B of 20 December 2002, 58/286 of 8 April 2004, 59/267 of 23 December 2004, 60/258 of 8 May 2006, 61/238 of 22 December 2006, 61/260 of 4 April 2007, 62/226 of 22 December 2007, 62/246 of 3 April 2008, 64/262 of 29 March 2010, 65/270 of 4 April 2011, 66/259 of 9 April 2012, 67/256 of 12 April 2013, 68/266 of 9 April 2014, 69/275 of 2 April 2015, 70/257 of 1 April 2016 and 71/281 of 6 April 2017,

Reaffirming the statute of the Unit[1] and the unique role of the Unit as the only external and independent system-wide inspection, evaluation and investigation body,

I
Report of the Joint Inspection Unit

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2017 and programme of work for 2018[2] and the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Unit for 2017,[3]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2017 and programme of work for 2018;[2]

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Unit for 2017;[3]

3. *Reiterates its request* to the executive heads of the participating organizations to comply fully with the statutory procedures for consideration of the

[1] Resolution 31/192, annex.
[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-second Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/72/34).
[3] A/72/733.

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reports of the Unit and, in particular, to submit their comments, including information on what they intend to do regarding the recommendations of the Unit, to distribute reports in time for their consideration by legislative organs and to provide information on the steps to be taken to implement those recommendations accepted by the legislative organs and the executive heads of participating organizations;

4. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General and the other executive heads of the participating organizations to fully assist the Unit with the timely provision of all information requested by it;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and invites the executive heads of organizations participating in the Unit, to take the necessary measures to ensure that the thematic reports of the Unit are listed under the appropriate substantive agenda items of the work programmes of the General Assembly, other pertinent organs and bodies of the United Nations and the appropriate legislative organs of the other participating organizations;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the oversight functions of the Unit in identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions within the participating organizations and providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations to improve and strengthen the governance of the United Nations as a whole;

7. *Reaffirms* article 20 of the statute of the Unit,[1] in which it is stipulated that the Unit shall be invited to be represented at meetings when its budget estimates are being discussed;

8. *Recognizes* that the effectiveness of the Unit system-wide is a shared responsibility of the Unit, the Member States and the secretariats of the participating organizations;

9. *Also recognizes* the need to continue to enhance the impact of the Unit on the management efficiency and transparency of the participating organizations within the United Nations system;

10. *Reiterates* its request to the Unit to consider optimizing the number of projects in its programme of work through prioritization;

11. *Also reiterates* its request to the Unit to continue to focus its reports on priority items of the participating organizations and the States Members of the United Nations, including by taking into consideration the programme of work of the General Assembly, with the aim of providing the Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with thematic reports of the Unit that can be used to maximum effect;

12. *Welcomes* the coordination of the Unit with the Board of Auditors and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat, and encourages those bodies to continue to share experiences, knowledge, best practices and lessons learned with other United Nations audit and oversight bodies, as well as with the Independent Audit Advisory Committee, with a view to avoiding overlap or duplication and achieving further synergy, cooperation, effectiveness and efficiency, without prejudice to the respective mandates of the audit and oversight bodies;

13. *Also welcomes* the completion of the migration of the web-based tracking system and the website of the Unit to platforms hosted by the United Nations Secretariat, and requests the heads of participating organizations to make full use of the web-based tracking system of the Unit;

II

Outcome of the review of the follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit reports and recommendations by the United Nations system organizations

Having considered the notes by the Secretary-General[4] drawing to the attention of the General Assembly the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Outcome of the review of the follow-up to the Joint Inspection Unit reports and recommendations by the United Nations system organizations"[5] and his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[6]

1. *Takes note* of the notes by the Secretary-General;[4,6]

2. *Invites* the Joint Inspection Unit to continue to provide an in-depth analysis of how the recommendations of the Unit are being implemented;

3. *Encourages* the heads of participating organizations to examine possible options for improving coordinated action, including through the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, in response to relevant recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit;

4. *Reiterates* its invitation to the legislative organs of the participating organizations to fully consider, discuss and take concrete action in a timely manner on the relevant recommendations issued by the Unit, including follow-up, as appropriate, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 4 of its resolution 50/233;

5. *Requests* the executive heads of the participating organizations who have not yet done so to establish a direct reporting line from the Joint Inspection Unit focal points to top management.

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[4] A/72/704.

[5] JIU/REP/2017/5.

[6] A/72/704/Add.1.

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Seventy-second session
Fifth Committee
Agenda items 136 and 127

Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Global health and foreign policy

Draft decision submitted by the Chair of the Committee following informal consultations

Programme budget implications relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Scope, modalities, format and organization of the high-level meeting on the fight against tuberculosis

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/72/L.40

The Fifth Committee, having considered the statement of programme budget implications submitted by the Secretary-General and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, decides to inform the General Assembly that, should it adopt draft resolution A/72/L.40, resources amounting to $49,800 would be required under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, and $9,900 under section 28, Public information, of the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019. Efforts will be made to absorb the estimated additional requirements of $59,700 within the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019, and the additional expenditures will be reported in the relevant performance report for the same biennium.

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Fifth Committee
Agenda item 136
Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Draft resolution submitted by the Chair following informal consultations

Special subjects relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

The General Assembly,

I
Standards of accommodation for air travel

Recalling its resolutions 37/240 of 21 December 1982 and 42/214 of 21 December 1987, section IV, paragraph 14, of its resolution 53/214 of 18 December 1998, section XV of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, section II of its resolution 63/268 of 7 April 2009, section IV of its resolution 65/268 of 4 April 2011, section VI of its resolution 67/254 A of 12 April 2013, section IV of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015 and section VI of its resolution 71/272 B of 6 April 2017, as well as its decision 57/589 of 18 June 2003,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the standards of accommodation for air travel[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Having also considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Review of air travel policies in the United Nations system: achieving efficiency gains and cost savings and enhancing harmonization"[3] and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[4]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

[1] A/72/716.
[2] A/72/7/Add.44.
[3] A/72/629.
[4] A/72/629/Add.1.

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2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 71/272 B, regrets that the Secretary-General did not submit a comprehensive report on standards of accommodation for air travel, and requests him to submit such a report to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed seventy-third session;

4. *Expresses concern* at the low rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive in all travel categories, recalls paragraph 4 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to make stronger efforts to further enhance the rate of compliance with the advance purchase policy directive across all travel categories, in particular in the official travel category, taking into account the patterns and nature of official travel and the reasons for non-compliance by each department, office and field mission;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to include the advance purchase of tickets as a key performance indicator in regular managerial and departmental performance evaluations, taking into account the specificity of departments;

6. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to hold managers accountable for the judicious use of travel resources, in particular by increasingly encouraging the use of alternative methods of communication and representation and by giving primary consideration to authorizing official travel only where direct face-to-face contact is necessary for mandate implementation;

7. *Takes note* of paragraph 8 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor industry best practices in the area of frequent flyer miles and to report to the General Assembly on any new trends for making use of frequent flyer miles to improve the administration of travel;

9. *Takes note* of paragraph 12 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

10. *Notes* the decrease in the use of the lump-sum option;

11. *Takes note* of paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee;

12. *Decides* to reinstate travel days and to maintain the 70 per cent lump-sum payment;

13. *Looks forward* to the results of the comprehensive analysis by the Secretary-General of the implementation of the lump-sum payments option, including collection and analysis of Umoja travel information, as well as the rate of acceptance of the lump-sum option by staff, to be presented to the General Assembly for consideration during its seventy-third session;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides to eliminate the use of first-class travel of United Nations staff members for their official travel;

15. *Encourages* non-staff members entitled to travel first class, with the exception of representatives of least developed countries, to voluntarily downgrade to the class immediately below;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include, in his report to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, an analysis and recommendations concerning a single threshold for the use of business class by staff below the level of Assistant Secretary-General (and eligible family members) that should, in most years, be expected to maximize the use of limited travel budgets;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the voluntary use of economy- and premium economy-class travel instead of business class wherever possible;

18. *Decides* that the changes set out in the present resolution shall not affect the current standards of accommodation for air travel and daily subsistence allowance of members of organs and/or subsidiary organs, committees, councils and commissions of the United Nations;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to limit the use of exceptions, to strengthen internal controls in this regard and to report thereon in his next report on standards of accommodation for air travel;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the procurement process for all air travel management services contracts is conducted in full compliance with general procurement principles as set out in financial regulation 5.12, namely, (a) best value for money; (b) fairness, integrity and transparency; (c) effective international competition; and (d) the interest of the United Nations,[5] and to ensure that the procurement process includes the option of awarding a contract to multiple vendors to allow for greater competition among selected vendors;

21. *Encourages* the International Civil Service Commission to assess system-wide standards of accommodation for air travel and to present relevant recommendations to the General Assembly;

II
Proposed regional restructuring of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed regional restructuring of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[6] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[7]

Requests the Secretary-General to consider submitting a report, in line with established rules and procedures, to the General Assembly for consideration at its seventy-fourth session, on a proposed regional restructuring of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, if necessary.

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[5] See ST/SGB/2013/4.

[6] A/71/218, A/71/218/Corr. 1 and A/72/720.

[7] A/71/584 and A/72/7/Add.45.

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Agenda item 134
Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

Draft decision submitted by the Chair

Questions deferred for future consideration

A

The General Assembly decides to defer until the second part of its resumed seventy-second session consideration of the following documents:

Item 149
Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Rates of reimbursement to troop- and police-contributing countries

Report of the Secretary-General on the results of the survey to support the review of the standard rate of reimbursement to troop- and police-contributing countries[1]

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[2]

B

The General Assembly decides to defer until the main part of its seventy-third session consideration of the following documents:

[1] A/72/728.
[2] A/72/771.

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Item 136
Programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019

Review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the experience of the utilization of the contingency fund[3]

Related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions[4]

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[3] A/70/395.
[4] A/70/7/Add.7.